
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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| re application of: Mark A. Sanders | Preliminary Class: 137 |
| Application No.: 10/085,339 | Examiner: Not assigned |
| Filed: February 28, 2002 | Confirmation No.: 8540 |
| Entitled: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING A BUILDING | |
| Attorney Docket No.: 1805-0003 | May 6, 2002 |

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
on May 6, 2002 (Date of Deposit)

Michael D. Beck
Name of person mailing Document or Fee

Signature

May 6, 2002
Date of Signature

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION OF THE APPLICATION AS AMENDED**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of this application. In addition, Applicant requests that publication of this application be based upon the application as amended, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.215(c). In accordance with the requirements of this Rule, Applicant has submitted a complete specification incorporating the amendment.

This Preliminary Amendment and request for publication of the amended application is being made within 14 months of the priority date of this application. It is believed that no new fees are required for this Preliminary Amendment; however, if any fees are deemed to be required, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 13-0014.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please insert the following as new claim 12:

-- 12. A building protection system for controlling the flow of a utility, such as water or gas, through an inlet line into a building, comprising:

a valve disposed in the inlet line and having an open position permitting flow of the utility into the building and a closed position preventing flow of the utility into the building, said valve responsive to an electrical signal to move between said open and said closed positions;

a sensing switch operable to generate a sensing signal in response to sensing a leak of the utility in the building;

a wireless transmitter connected to said sensing switch and configured to generate a transmitted signal corresponding to said sensing signal, said transmitter being positioned remote from said valve;

a wireless receiver operably associated with said valve and configured to receive said transmitted signal and to generate said electrical signal in relation to said transmitted signal; and

an auto-dialer associated with said receiver and connected to a phone system, said auto-dialer configured to automatically dial a stored phone number in response to receipt of said transmitted signal by said receiver. --

REMARKS

Entry of new claim 12 is requested prior to examination of this application. Applicant received a Notice of Omitted Items with respect to a missing page 21 of the application. This page included original claim 12. Since the application was otherwise in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.51, it is believed that this application is entitled to its original filing date and that formal response to the Notice of Omitted Items is not required.

Claims 13-17 in the originally filed application refer to claim 12. This Preliminary Amendment supplies claim 12. Consideration of the application as amended is hereby requested. In addition, Applicant requests that the application be published as amended. A complete copy of the amended application in compliance with the electronic filing system requirements is appended hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Beck

May 6, 2002

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COPY OF ADDED CLAIM

12. A building protection system for controlling the flow of a utility, such as water or gas, through an inlet line into a building, comprising:

a valve disposed in the inlet line and having an open position permitting flow of the utility into the building and a closed position preventing flow of the utility into the building, said valve responsive to an electrical signal to move between said open and said closed positions;

a sensing switch operable to generate a sensing signal in response to sensing a leak of the utility in the building;

a wireless transmitter connected to said sensing switch and configured to generate a transmitted signal corresponding to said sensing signal, said transmitter being positioned remote from said valve;

a wireless receiver operably associated with said valve and configured to receive said transmitted signal and to generate said electrical signal in relation to said transmitted signal; and

an auto-dialer associated with said receiver and connected to a phone system, said auto-dialer configured to automatically dial a stored phone number in response to receipt of said transmitted signal by said receiver.